

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims, as shown below. Please add new claim. The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings.

1. (Currently amended) ~~An~~ A vaccine preparation comprising:

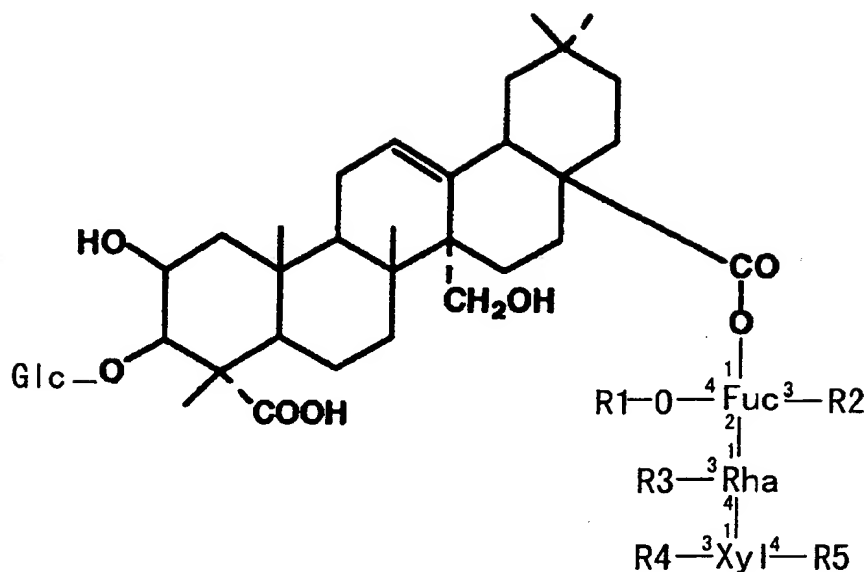
(a) as a vaccine, one or more antigens; and

(b) as an adjuvant, comprising a one or more purified saponin compound having compounds each of which has a presenegenin skeleton substituted at position 28 with a sugar residue substituted with a trimethoxycinnamate residue and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the substituted sugar residue comprises an apiose residue as its substituent when the substituted sugar residue is tetra-substituted.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~adjuvant~~ vaccine preparation of claim 1, wherein the substituted sugar is a sugar residue containing 3 or more carbon atoms.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~adjuvant~~ vaccine preparation of claim 2, wherein the sugar residue is a substituted fucose residue.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~adjuvant~~ vaccine preparation of claim 3, wherein the saponin compound is represented by the formula:



wherein Glc indicates glucose residue; Fuc, fucose residue; Rha, rhamnose residue; Xyl, xylose residue; R1, trimethoxycinnamate residue; R2, H or rhamnose residue; R3, H or apiose residue; R4, H or arabinose residue; and R5, H or galactose residue.

5. (Currently amended) The adjuvant vaccine preparation of claim 4, wherein ~~the adjuvant comprises at least one of the saponin compounds~~ compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a compound where R1 is trimethoxycinnamate residue, R2, R3, and R4 are H, and R5 is galactose residue;

(b) a compound where R1 is trimethoxycinnamate residue, R2 is H, R3 is apiose residue, R4 is arabinose residue, and R5 is H; and

(c) a compound where R1 is trimethoxycinnamate residue, R2 is H, R3 is apiose residue, and R4 and R5 are H.

6. (Currently amended) The adjuvant vaccine preparation of claim 1, wherein the saponin compound is prepared from a crude drug.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) The vaccine preparation of claim 7 1, wherein the vaccine preparation is to be inoculated intranasally or orally.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) A method of enhancing the immunological activity of a vaccine, said method comprising inoculating the vaccine ~~with a saponin compound having a presenegenin skeleton substituted at position 28 with a sugar residue substituted with a trimethoxyinnamate residue, where the substituted sugar residue comprises an apiose residue as its substituent when the substituted sugar residue is tetra-substituted~~ preparation of any one of claims 1 to 6 or 8.

11-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently amended) The vaccine preparation of claim 8 1, wherein the vaccine preparation comprises, as a vaccine, antigens from one or more pathogenic microorganisms selected from the group consisting of influenza virus, rotavirus, measles virus, rubella virus, mumps virus, ~~AIDS virus~~, Bordetella pertussis, hepatitis B virus and diphtheria bacillus.